## Message Text

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70

**ACTION ARA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 HEW-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 /037 W

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R 071740Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6982

CONFIDENTIAL BUENOS AIRES 5810

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SCUL, AR

SUBJECT: CONFLICT BETWEEN MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITY

BECTOR

**REF: BUENOS AIRES 5627** 

1. DISPUTE BETWEEN EDUCATION MINISTER BRUERA AND BA UNIVERSITY RECTOR CONSTANTINI (SEE REFTEL) MAY BE COMING TO A HEAD. BRUERA IS DEMANDING GREATER CENTRALIZATION OF AUTHORITY UNDER THE MINISTRY ITSELF; CONSTANTINI, ON OTHER HAND, IS INSISTING ON UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY. CONSTANTINI TOLD EMBOFFS WITH WHOM HE LUNCHED ON SEPT 3 THAT HE FRANKLY CONCERNED OVER BRUERA PLAN (SEE REFTEL) WITH RESPECT TO WHICH HE NEVER CONSULTED AND TO WHICH HE STRONGLY OPPOSED. HE SAID HE EXPECTED TO SEE PRESIDENT VIDELA THAT SAME EVENING AND WOULD URGE THAT SITUATION BE CLARIFIED. (AIDE SUBSEQUENTLY SUGGESTED TO EMBOFFS THAT CONSTANTINI WOULD PROBABLY TELL PRESIDENT THAT HE COULD NO LONGER WORK HARMONIOUSLY WITH MIN OF EDUCATION WITH IMPLICATION THAT HE WOULD RESIGN UNLESS BRUERA DID.)

2. ON SEPT 4, SAME AIDE TOLD EMBOFF THAT CONSTANTINI'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT HAD GONE ABOUT AS EXPECTED. CONSTANTINI HAS SHOWN NO SIGN OF BACKING DOWN; MUCH TO THE CONTRARY, HE HAS EMPHASIZED THE DIFFERENCES BY CONTINUING TO PUBLICIZE HIS VIEWS WIDELY, BACKED BY STATMENTS OF SUPPORT FROM HIS DEANS. VIDELA, ACCORDING TO AIDE, TENDS TO SUPPORT CONSTANTINI'S POSITION RATHER THAN BRUERA'S. HOWEVER, A NUMBER OF CONSTANTINI'S CONFIDENTIAL

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STATEMENTS CONCERNING WAY IN WHICH HE BELIEVED UNIVERSITY

SHOULD BE RUN--ESPECIALLY THOSE CONCERNING TRI-PARTITE SYSTEM OF UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENT--HAD OFFENDED CERTAIN KEY MILITARY OFFICERS. HENCE, AIDE STATED, IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY INEXPEDIENT FOR VIDELA TO COMMIT HIMSELF TO CONSTANTINI'S DEFENSE. AIDE PREDICTED INSTEAD A SOLUTION IN WHICH CONSTANTINI WOULD RESIGN SHORTLY AND BRUERA WOULD BE ASKED TO RESIGN BY END OF YEAR. CHAPLIN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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Concepts: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, UNIVERSITIES

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